

Columbia celebrates Martin Luther King Day

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Theme: "We Are Better Together - One Columbia

"We must come to see that the end we seek is a society at peace with itself, a society that can live with its conscience. That day will be a day not of the white man, not of the black man. That day will be the day of man as man."

--Martin Luther King, Jr., Selma March Address 1965

Martin Luther King Jr. Memorial Park is dedicated to the legacy and memory of America's most celebrated civil rights leader. Formally known as Valley Park, the park was historically restricted to whites only. On December 23, 1987, the Columbia City Council voted unanimously to rename Valley Park and to host a celebration each year in observance of King's holiday. On January 18, 1988, the first celebration was held as a part of the dedication of Martin Luther King Jr. Memorial Park.

The Richland Cadet Squadron at WG Sanders Middle School has been honored to participate in this celebration for six (6) years and was a 2010 Dream Keeper Scholarship Recipient (an award recognizing exemplary displays of committed service).

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